

# Four Persons Hurt in Traffic Mishaps

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# Torrance Press-Herald

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## UNEQUALED CIRCULATION AND EDITORIAL COVERAGE

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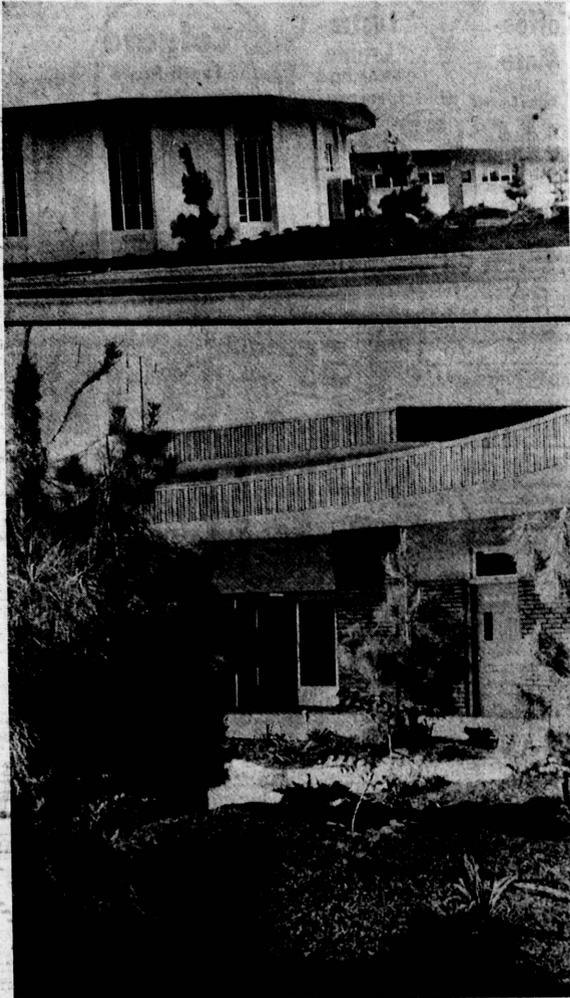
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**OPENING TODAY** . . . Dedication ceremonies at 2 p.m. today will mark the opening of the new Torrance Family YMCA building at 2900 W. Sepulveda Blvd. Landscaping at the new facility (shown from Sepulveda Boulevard in the top picture) was completed yesterday. The bottom photo shows a part of the amphitheater and fire circle, as well as the entrance to the multi-purpose room. The facility is the first part of a projected development which will include a gymnasium and covered swimming pool. (Press-Herald Photos)

## Formal Ceremonies Will Note YMCA Opening Today

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Brown and their four children — all active in the numerous programs sponsored by the Torrance Family YMCA — will cut a ribbon this afternoon at 2 o'clock to mark the formal opening of the YMCA's new building.

The new facility, located at 2900 W. Sepulveda Blvd., will be dedicated by the Rev. Edward Goodell, volunteer YMCA chaplain and Good Neighbor for 1965.

The 2 p.m. ceremony, first of three scheduled events today, marks the completion of a 28,000 square foot facility which will become headquarters for one of the largest community YMCA programs in the nation. The structure represents an investment of \$400,000.

**OTHERS WHO** will be on hand for the formal opening include Architects Roy Donley and James K. Bell, interior designer Jack Barnich of the YMCA National Building Service, and Dr. Lloyd Jones, a Torrance School District consultant and landscape architect.

Mayor Albert Isen, members of the City Council, and Don Hyde, vice president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, also will be on hand.

Tours of the new facility will be conducted throughout the afternoon.

AT 4 P.M., a giant Signature Tile Wall, containing the names of 2,008 major donors, will be dedicated. Mrs. A. W. Adams, Wall chairman, will present the Wall to Marshal Stewart, chairman of the YMCA Building Committee. The Rev. Francis Rath, pastor of Seaside Community Church, and the Rev. Hans Holborn, pastor of Riviera Methodist Church, will participate in the dedication.

A formal worship service will be held in the chapel at 6 p.m. Benjamin F. Renz of the Y's Men's Club, Jeffrey Binford of the YMCA Leadership Club, executive secretary Joe Wilcox Jr., and Dr. Mar will lead the worship service. The dedication prayer will

be offered by Thomas Pettepiece, a ministerial student who "grew up" in the Torrance Family YMCA.

**THE NEW** facility, first unit of the projected YMCA headquarters, contains a large multi-purpose room, club and game rooms, executive and business offices, and a large outdoor campfire circle. A kitchen, an underground parking area, and a swimming pool also are included.

Questionnaire replies will be distributed at a public meeting of the Candidates night scheduled by the League for Wednesday, March 30, at 7:30 p.m., at the Torrance Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd. All candidates have accepted invitations to speak at this meeting.

Organizations desiring quantities of the publication may make arrangements by contacting Mrs. James Hawkins at 375-1665.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization which neither supports nor endorses candidates.

# Youth Flees Unmarked Patrol Car, Is Jailed

## Pair Released From Hospital After Checking

Four persons were injured here Friday in three separate traffic accidents. None of the four was seriously hurt.

Two persons were treated at Little Company of Mary Hospital and released following a three-car crash about 11 p.m. Police identified the injured as Ruth Ann Loft, 39, of Los Angeles, and Paul J. Comer, 43, of 2117 Torrance Blvd.

The accident occurred on Western Avenue as Mrs. Loft attempted a left turn onto 208th Street. She was struck from the rear by a car driven by Henry Navarro, 21, of Los Angeles.

MRS. LOFT told police she stepped out of her car following the first crash. Her vehicle was then struck by the Comer car. Navarro was not injured.

Earlier Friday, Marjorie I. Neth, 24, of 3650 Emerald St., sustained minor injuries when she lost control of her car while turning onto Hawthorne Boulevard and struck a car on a used car lot.

Police said Miss Neth, attempting to turn onto Hawthorne from Emerald Street, failed to yield the right of way. She suffered minor cuts about her face and told officers she would seek private medical attention. The accident occurred shortly before 8:30 p.m.

THE THIRD person was injured just before 4 p.m. when she lost control of her car while pulling out of a service station and struck a parked car.

Mrs. Charlotte J. Meyer, 76, of 4714 Highgrove St., refused medical attention. She apparently lost control of her car as she entered traffic on Pacific Coast Highway. She told officers she tried to hit the brakes, but struck the accelerator, instead. She struck a car parked at 3741 W. Pacific Coast Hwy.

## Candidate Facts at Libraries

Replies to questionnaires sent to all candidates appearing on Torrance's April 12 municipal ballot are now available to the public at all Torrance public libraries. The questionnaires and candidates' replies were compiled by the Torrance League of Women Voters.

Each of the two candidates for mayor, 16 candidates for city clerk, and two candidates for city treasurer has listed biographical information on himself in the publication, as well as stating his interests in city government and his plans for applying these interests to the benefit of the city of Torrance. Charter duties of each of the contested offices also are outlined.

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## Begin Work On Contract

A \$2,369,000 contract has awarded the local Magnavox Research Laboratories by the United States Army Electronics Command at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey, according to Congressman Alphonzo Bell (R-Los Angeles).

The award is for various items or radio communication equipment and the work will be performed at the Torrance plant.

## \$100,000 Price Tag Put On 'Worthless' Slag Pile

A "worthless" slag heap which has been bugging residents of the Pueblo area of Torrance apparently isn't worthless after all.

That is the conclusion of City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier, who was ordered to report to the City Council on possible solutions to problems posed by the "mountain of waste."

Remelmeier, in a report which will be considered Tuesday by councilmen, said the County Assessor has placed a value in excess of \$100,000 on the slag heap. Assessor Phil Watson refused to disclose the exact value, Remelmeier said, but indicated that it has a market value "in six figures."

Thal, Remelmeier added, "virtually precludes the argument that the pile has no value."

**OFFICIALS** of the U. S. Gypsum Co., in negotiations held three weeks ago, told city officials and residents of the Pueblo that the firm is now developing a process to use much of the waste as a raw material. The firm has refused to remove the waste.

Pueblo residents contend the mountain is a safety hazard and a public nuisance and have sought the city's help to abate the nuisance.

Remelmeier, in his report, has recommended that negotiations with the firm be continued in an effort to find an amicable solution. He also has recommended that the city notify the firm by letter "to abate the nuisance or lessen its objectionableness by appropriate action."

**SUCH A** notice is required if court action is sought, he said, and "should demonstrate that the city is serious in its urging that something be done to improve the situation."

Councilmen will convene at 8 p.m. Tuesday.

Also on the agenda are hearings on Master Plan No. 2 for the South Torrance Oil Fields and a hearing on a proposal to rezone Hawthorne Boulevard frontage from M-1 to C-2 north of Torrance Boulevard.

## Press-Herald Salutes YMCA Opening Today

A special 12-page section in today's Press-Herald salutes the opening of the new 28,000-square-foot Leadership Training Center for the Torrance Family YMCA at 2900 W. Sepulveda Blvd.

The new center, which will replace the dilapidated tin building used by the YMCA for nearly two decades, will be formally opened in ceremonies to begin at 2 p.m. today.

The special section in today's Press-Herald carries lists of the busy summer camping dates, some of the many clubs and organizations serving YMCA families in the community, and the congratulatory messages of Torrance area leaders in civic, business, and industrial affairs.

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## Burglars Get Bike, Car Top

A purple bicycle and a sports car top were among items taken by thieves Friday, Torrance police have reported.

The bicycle was taken from the garage at the home of William Lloyd, 22831 Madrona Ave. Lloyd told police officers that the bicycle was taken from the garage sometime between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The bicycle, which belongs to Lloyd's 13-year-old son, is valued at \$135.

**THE SPORTS** car top was removed from a car belonging to Ronald F. Day of 2321 Clark Lane, Redondo Beach, between 8 p.m. and midnight.

Day said he had parked the car at 3323 W. Artesia Blvd. and discovered the top missing when he returned. The top is worth \$250, he said.

Between \$50 and \$60 in coins was taken from several coin-operated washing machines at 20415 Anza Ave., according to Anna M. Perry. Mrs. Perry also said two fire extinguishers were discharged. Police said the burglars pried the locks on the machine coin boxes.

A STEREO tape recorder worth \$105 was taken from a car belonging to Michael J. Antal of 319 Palos Verdes Blvd. Antal told police his car was parked in the carport adjacent to his apartment building. The burglar apparently used a coat-hanger to unlock the car, police reported.

Several tape recordings and two speakers were taken from a car belonging to Reginalde Hannon, 21, of Hawthorne. Hannon, who is employed at the Del Amo Center, told police his car was entered while he was at work Friday.

Total value of the stolen items, which were on the rear seat of the car, was set at \$67.

## Chase Halted When Car Hits Deadend Street

Torrance police jailed a 19-year-old youth Friday evening on 17 traffic violations after he led an unmarked police car on a high-speed chase through south Central Torrance.

Paul Frances Ruhl, 3402 W. 226th St., was arrested after he pulled his car into a driveway at 22742 Samuel St. He abandoned the car, but returned to the scene after officers checked the registration in the vehicle and called the Ruhl home.

Officers Robert Armstrong and Bruce Randall identified Ruhl as the driver of the vehicle.

THE CHASE began about 8:40 p.m. on Torrance Boulevard near Anza Avenue. The officers said Ruhl pulled onto Torrance Boulevard and began a drag race with a second car. The officers pursued the two cars south on Hawthorne Boulevard and pulled along side the Ruhl vehicle.

Armstrong showed his badge and told Ruhl, "Pull your car to the curb."

The driver replied, "Yes, sir," but suddenly turned west on Carson Street. Arm-

strong and Randall said the speeding car accelerated to 80 miles per hour.

**THE YOUTH** looped through the Southwood area, then turned south on Ocean Avenue and headed east through an alley to Hawthorne Boulevard. He then turned east onto 226th Street, led the officers through a residential area in the area of 226th Street and Eastwood Court, then turned into Samuel Street.

When Armstrong and Randall turned onto Samuel Street, which deadends in the area, they found the car abandoned in a driveway. They copied the name and address from the vehicle registration papers and called the Torrance Police Station.

Officers at the station called the Ruhl home and the suspect returned to the scene a short time later. He was charged with reckless driving, evading arrest, and 15 other traffic violations.

"I thought you guys were going to throw something at me," Ruhl told the two officers. "The last time a guy showed me a badge, they threw bottles at me."

THE TWO supervisors pledged their support in solving a projected parking problem at the Torrance Civic Center and also said they would push for improvement of four major streets.

Chace and Hahn met with city officials for about 30 minutes prior to the luncheon.

The city is pressing for improvement of Del Amo, Lomita, and Sepulveda boulevards. (Continued on Page A-7)

## Supervisors Honored at Torrance Chamber Event

"Our problems are all financial. We don't have a problem that a few million dollars won't solve," Burton W. Chace, chairman of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, told Torrance civic and business leaders Friday.

Chace and Supervisor Kenneth Hahn were honored by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce at a "Meet Your Supervisors" luncheon here Friday.

Supervisor Chace also told the 200 guests, "We are trying to live on our income."

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## Bonds Topic of Meeting - - -

Trustees of the Torrance Unified School District will convene tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. for their regular meeting. Chief business before the trustees will be a discussion of the amount of school construction bonds to be asked at a June 7 election. A \$12.5 million bond issue was rejected by voters Feb. 8. Board members voted two weeks ago to hold a second election at the June 7 primary election. The board will meet in the district administrative offices, 2335 Plaza del Amo.

## Mother Has Kidnap Scare - - -

A young mother and two children were saved from a possible kidnapper this week by a pair of Torrance businessmen who pulled a suspicious man from her car. Dianna Schimmick of 2350 W. 228th St., said she noticed a man driving a car with New York plates following her near El Camino College Wednesday afternoon. She picked up her children, Lisa, 7, and Bobby, 10, at school on Carson Street, and when the car continued to follow her, drove into downtown Torrance and parked, taking the two children into a store with her. Two businessmen answered her call for help and challenged the suspect, who had climbed into the Schimmick car. A Torrance officer working downtown on a three-wheeled cycle responded within a few minutes and a second car was sent from west Torrance, a move which has since been criticized by Robert Schimmick, husband and father of the intended victims. "If the officer on the three-wheeler had not investigated, my wife and children might have been injured or kidnapped by the time the west Torrance car arrived," he told the Press-Herald yesterday.